



Week 4: Getting to the New!

Date: August 1st, 2021

- † **The Revolution!** The miracle of the New Covenant: Through *faith alone* in the *Grace of Jesus Christ alone*, the brand new way of entering into, and daily living in, the *New Life* of a fully restored relationship with God, in union with Christ, made possible by *faith* in the resurrection and lordship of Jesus Christ.

- † **The Counter-Revolution:** The old covenant strikes back! Faith in Christ isn't enough. All believers also must adhere to the tradition and law of the Mosaic Covenant. In today's world, the heresy of "Christ plus."

- † **The Resolution:** "No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we (Jewish believer/insiders) are saved, just as they (Gentile Believers/outsideers) are." Acts 15:11

- † **The Conclusion:** "Therefore, we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God!" Acts 15:19, 15:22-35

1,970 years later: Implications and applications of the Jerusalem Council

- † As disciples of Christ living under the New Covenant- *the better hope by which we draw near to God*- how do we appropriately engage with the scripture written under the Old Covenant?
 - What you already know: The Old Testament is a GIFT.

 - What you should know: The Old Testament must be interpreted in context of the Old Covenant and the original recipients.
Jeremiah 29:11

 - What you need to know: As disciples of Christ, we APPLY the Old Testament through the lens of the New Covenant.
 - What is the **conditional promise** of the Old Covenant Christ now provides by His **unconditional presence**?
2 Corinthians 1:20-22, 2 Peter 1:3-4

† Choosing the old when we have been given *The New*

- The TEMPLE
2 Corinthians 6:16

- The PRIESTHOOD
1 Peter 2:4-5, 9

- The TITHE
2 Corinthians 9:6-8, Matthew 23:23

† Reality! The moral and ethical law of the Old Covenant is no longer a resource to answer the question ‘*what is SIN?*’

The Old Testament is a precious gift revealing the purposes, nature, character, and wisdom of God. It is no longer a source of rules and regulations the disciple of Christ must obey.

† Getting to the New! All of God’s moral, ethical, and natural law is revealed within the New Covenant. Here, God is not after compliance, He is after our HEARTS!
Matthew 5:27-28

- In the NC, our motivation is not law, but LOVE.
John 13:34

- In the NC, our source of righteousness is the SPIRIT, not our best effort.
Galatians 5:16, 2 Corinthians 3:6

- In the NC, the essence of sin is not failure while trying, it is the failure to LOVE.
Romans 13:9

Next week’s message: Revolution/Counter-Revolution, Week 5:

Coda: God is in control- and that’s a good thing! Acts 15:36-41